

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Sol Braxton and I am a resident of New Britain. I am a member of the Fight Back Committee of Make the Road CT.

I stand in support of HB 6616: An Act Concerning Expansion Of Husky Health Benefits To Those Ineligible Due To Immigration Status.

In our community it is essential to be able to provide a human right to ensure all those in our state are being taken care of properly. Not having health insurance affects the quality of life one receives and not only does it affect the individual but has an impact on the entire community. Around 58% of the roughly 113,000 undocumented immigrants in CT do not have any form of health insurance coverage<sup>1</sup> (compared to 95% of the general CT population who have healthcare<sup>2</sup>). We must do better - we cannot afford to put any more lives at risk. That's why I ask of the committee to please support this expansion and let it only be a continuous reminder to look out for all who are part of our community.

I support HB 6616 and I ask the committee to support and pass this legislation. Looking forward, I ask the committee to work towards opening access to all immigrants regardless of age.

Thank you for your time, Sol Braxton

<sup>1</sup> Profile of the Unauthorized Population: Connecticut

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Health Insurance of Total Population - Connecticut - For 2020, Kaiser Family Foundation